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HOUSE BILL 262

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

BOBBIE K. MALLORY

AN ACT

**RELATING TO EDUCATION; REQUIRING SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO
ADMINISTER NORM-REFERENCED TESTS OR STANDARDS-BASED
ASSESSMENTS TO STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS; PROVIDING
FOR THE REPORTING OF TEST OR ASSESSMENT RESULTS TO THE STATE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**Section 1. Section 22-1-6 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1989,
Chapter 308, Section 1, as amended by Laws 1997, Chapter 261,
Section 1) is amended to read:**

**"22-1-6. ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT
REQUIRED. --**

**A. School districts shall be required to publish
an annual school district accountability report to provide
district-wide data for the previous school year. The state**

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1 board shall establish the format for the accountability
2 reports and ensure that the relevant data is provided annually
3 to parents, students, educators, policymakers, legislators,
4 the governor and business and economic development
5 organizations. The department of education shall establish
6 the following five indices through which public school
7 performance shall be measured and reported to school
8 districts:

9 (1) student achievement as measured by a
10 nationally norm-referenced test approved by the department of
11 education or through a performance-based instrument to measure
12 proficiency;

13 (2) school safety;

14 (3) the drop-out rate;

15 (4) attendance; and

16 (5) parent and community involvement.

17 The department of education shall establish the
18 methodology for measuring each of the five indices.

19 B. Effective July 1, 1998, school districts shall
20 annually administer a nationally norm-referenced test or a
21 standards-based assessment to a student enrolled in a public
22 school in grades one, three, five and seven unless the student
23 is incapable of taking the test due to a profound disability.
24 School districts shall report the following to the department
25 of education:

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1 (1) the results of the norm-referenced test
2 or standards-based assessment;

3 (2) the number of enrolled students who did
4 not take the test, the school in which they are enrolled and
5 the reason for the exemption from the test; and

6 (3) as part of the aggregate report and
7 separately, the results of assessments of students enrolled in
8 special education class A, B, C and D programs who took the
9 test and the school in which they are enrolled.

10 C. Effective July 1, 1999, school districts shall
11 annually administer a nationally norm-referenced test or a
12 standards-based assessment to a student enrolled in a public
13 school in grades one through eight unless the student is
14 incapable of taking the test due to a profound disability.
15 School districts shall report the following to the department
16 of education:

17 (1) the results of the norm-referenced
18 test or standards-based assessment;

19 (2) the number of enrolled students who
20 did not take the test, the school in which they are enrolled
21 and the reason for the exemption from the test; and

22 (3) as part of the aggregate report and
23 separately, the results of assessments of students enrolled in
24 special education class A, B, C and D programs who took the
25 test and the school in which they are enrolled.

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1 ~~[B-]~~ D. School districts shall set two-, four- and
2 six-year benchmarks in each of the five indices for each
3 public school. Local school boards may establish additional
4 indices, if reviewed by the department of education, through
5 which to measure the school district's performance in other
6 areas.

7 ~~[C-]~~ E. The annual accountability report shall
8 also include the results of a survey of parents' views of the
9 quality of their children's school. The survey shall be
10 conducted each year in time to include the results in the
11 annual accountability report. The survey shall compile the
12 results of a written questionnaire that shall be sent home
13 with the students to be given to their parents. The survey
14 may be completed anonymously. The survey shall be no more
15 than one page, shall be clearly and concisely written and
16 shall include not more than twenty questions that shall be
17 answered with options of a simple sliding scale ranging from
18 "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree" and shall include the
19 optional response "don't know". The survey shall also include
20 a request for optional written comments, which may be written
21 on the back of the questionnaire form. The questionnaire
22 shall include questions in the following areas:

- 23 (1) parent-teacher-school relationship and
- 24 communication;
- 25 (2) quality of educational and

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- 1 extracurricular programs;
- 2 (3) instructional practices and techniques;
- 3 (4) resources;
- 4 (5) school personnel, including the school
- 5 principal; and
- 6 (6) parents' view of teaching staff
- 7 expectations for the students.

8 The state board shall develop no more than ten of the
9 questions which shall be reviewed by the legislative education
10 study committee prior to implementation. No more than five
11 questions shall be developed by the local school board and no
12 more than five questions shall be developed by the staffs of
13 each individual school site, provided that at least half of
14 those questions are developed by teachers rather than
15 administrators, in order to gather information that is
16 specific to the particular community surveyed. The
17 questionnaires shall indicate the public school site and shall
18 be tabulated by the department of education within thirty days
19 of receipt and shall be returned to the respective schools to
20 be disseminated to all parents.

21 ~~[D.]~~ F. The annual accountability report for each
22 school district shall be adopted by the local school board,
23 may be published no later than November 15 of each year and
24 may be published at least once each school year in a newspaper
25 of general circulation in the county where the school district

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1 is located. In publication, the report shall be titled "the
2 school district report card" and disseminated in accordance
3 with guidelines established by the state board to ensure
4 effective communication with parents, students, educators,
5 local policymakers and business and community organizations.

6 [E-] G. The department of education shall create
7 an accountability data system through which data from each
8 public school and each school district may be compiled and
9 reviewed. The department of education shall provide the
10 resources to train school district personnel in the use of the
11 accountability data system.

12 [F-] H. The department of education shall verify
13 data submitted by the school districts.

14 [G-] I. The state board shall measure the
15 performance of every public school in New Mexico. Public
16 schools achieving the highest level of performance shall be
17 eligible for supplemental incentive funding. The state board
18 shall establish the corrective actions and interventions
19 necessary for public schools whose performance level is low."